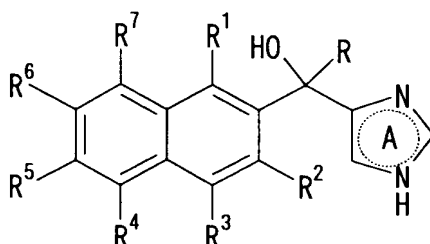


Abstract

The present invention provides an industrially advantageous production method of compound (V) having a steroid C_{17,20} lyase inhibitory action, which affords this compound in a high yield with a less number of steps without using a heavy metal compound:



(V)

wherein ring A is an optionally substituted imidazole ring, R is an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group or a heterocyclic group, and R¹, R², R³, R⁴, R⁵, R⁶ and R⁷ are each a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted hydrocarbon group, OH, SH or NH₂, an acyl group or a halogen and the like.